

Hawaii VFC News

FALL ISSUE 2013

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IMMUNIZATION BRANCH

"Hawaii VFC News" is a quarterly publication distributed to all participating Vaccines for Children (VFC) providers. Its purpose is to address VFC-related issues, provide general immunization information, and keep you up-to-date with the latest program changes.

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Don't be Generous with Germs this Holiday Season!

The holidays are right around the corner, and within a few weeks everyone will be bustling with activity as shopping, cooking, and family parties fill our schedules.

The holiday season brings together generosity and good company, so make sure you and your patients are up to date with vaccinations *before* the holidays begin.

Don't be generous with germs! Recommend the annual flu vaccine to your patients, as well as Tdap for family and friends of newborns.

If a patient's family members would like more information on where to receive flu vaccine, refer them to the **Department of Health's Statewide Flu Vaccine Resource List:**

<http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/flu-hawaii/vaccine-locator/>



And speaking of flu, this time of year the Immunization Branch at Department of Health is especially busy implementing the 7th year of the Stop Flu at School (SFAS) Vaccination Program, through which over 60,000 children aged 5-13 are vaccinated against flu during school hours. The vaccine is free to eligible participants with parental consent. **For more information about the SFAS program, please visit the website:**

<http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/flu-hawaii/stop-flu-at-school/> or call (808) 586-8300 (Oahu) or toll-free at 1-800-933-4832.

Many wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season to you and yours from all of us here at the VFC Program!

It's Federal Law!

You must give your patients current Vaccine Information Statements (VISs). Check your supply of VISs against the list below (current as of August 26, 2013). If you have out-dated VISs, throw them out and call the Hawaii VFC program to request the new VISs. While you're waiting for your new supply, download the current VISs online at <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/index.html>

Chickenpox	03/13/2008	Meningococcal	10/14/2011
DTaP	05/17/2007	Multi-vaccine	11/16/2012
Hib	12/16/1998	PCV13	02/27/2013
Hepatitis A	10/25/2011	PPSV	10/06/2009
Hepatitis B	02/02/2012	Polio	11/08/2011
HPV-Gardasil	05/17/2013	Rotavirus	08/26/2013
Influenza	07/26/2013	Tdap	05/09/2013
MMR	04/20/2012		

VFC Open Calls

Do you have questions about VFC program requirements, vaccine storage and handling, ACIP recommendations, or VFC vaccine ordering? If so, join us for an open call session where you have the opportunity to get your questions answered from our Hawaii VFC program staff.

Call-in sessions are held monthly.

Day: 4th Tuesday of every month

Time: 12:00 noon

To join the conference call:

Call access phone number: 1-888-482-3560

Enter access code: 5868336 followed by the # key

Registration is not required.

Talk to the Doc

I have adolescents in my practice who received one dose of varicella vaccine as preschoolers. Should I be giving them a second dose now?

Yes. The ACIP recommends that all children without evidence of immunity routinely receive two 0.5 ml doses of varicella vaccine. The first dose should be administered at age 12 through 15 months and the second dose at age 4 through 6 years. ACIP also recommends second dose “catch-up” varicella vaccination for all adolescents who previously received one dose.

The minimum interval between the two doses is 3 months for children aged 12 months through 12 years. For persons aged 13 years and older, the recommended minimum interval between the two doses of varicella vaccine is 4 weeks.

However, the catch-up second dose may be administered at any interval longer than the minimum recommended interval.

As a reminder, all persons with varicella disease should be routinely reported to the Department of Health using the Communicable Disease Reporting form [CDR]. The CDR is available online at

<http://health.hawaii.gov/docd/dib/reporting-illness/>.

To report a case to the Department of Health, call:



Oahu: (808) 586-4586

Hawaii: Hilo - (808) 933-0912

Hawaii: Kona - (808) 322-4877

Kauai: (808) 241-3563

Maui: (808) 984-8213

Have You HIR'd?

VFC providers that have been trained in the Hawaii Immunization Registry (HIR) Vaccine Ordering process have been doing well in submitting their inventory and placing their vaccine orders in HIR. Here are a few common questions we receive from providers.

I have trouble logging into HIR. Do you have any suggestions? Remember that all log-in fields are case sensitive. User names are lower case and in the format *first name.last name* (e.g. john.doe). Also, passwords must consist of at least 8 characters, both numbers and letters, with at least one capital letter (e.g. 4uiwda?Y). Users are prompted to change their passwords every 90 days.

Can I edit my inventory after I click “Save and Submit”? You cannot edit an inventory once it has been submitted. If you made an error on your inventory, you will need to re-enter your inventory on another day since HIR accepts only one inventory per day. VFC program staff will presume that the second inventory submitted is the correct one.

I received my vaccine order today. What should I do next? Log into HIR and verify the order status as “Fulfilled” in *Manage Orders*. Accept the transfer for the vaccines received in *Manage Transfers*. Once completed, these vaccines will be available in HIR inventory and will be listed under *State Supplied Vaccine* when you submit your next inventory.

Who's in Charge?

Two important documents that are an integral part of the VFC program are the **Inventory Control Form** and the **Emergency Management Plan**. It is a **VFC requirement** that these two forms be updated annually and whenever there is a change in vaccine coordinator/backup coordinator. Having an updated Emergency Management Plan for vaccines is beneficial for accountability reasons as well as emergency preparedness. In an emergency situation, having a set plan in place for who is responsible for storage and handling of vaccines will minimize confusion and help to avoid vaccine loss. If there is a change in your clinic's vaccine coordinator/backup coordinator, both of these documents need to be updated and faxed to the Hawaii VFC program at (808)586-8302. Templates of these documents are available in your VFC provider toolkit or through the Hawaii VFC program.

If you have suggestions for future newsletter topics or if you would like to share relevant immunization information with other VFC providers through our newsletter, please contact Danielle Vassalotti at 586-8308 (Oahu), 1-800-933-4832 (Neighbor Islands) or e-mail danielle.vassalotti@doh.hawaii.gov.

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